GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2442
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
SAARC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of SAARC Technical Committee on agriculture and rural development was held recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) Yes Sir. The Second Meeting of the SAARC Technical Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development was organized during June 27-28, 2005 in New Delhi at the instance of SAARC Secretariat located in Kathmandu.

(b) The meeting reviewed the status of various workshops covering water resources, animal diseases; livestock and poultry for rural development; and training local self-governments and cooperatives in poverty alleviation to be organized by the SAARC member countries. Establishment of regional food bank and quadrangle milk grid, role of SAARC agricultural information centre and exchange of rural development volunteers are some of the important issues discussed in the meeting. The meeting underlined the importance of networking and promoting technical cooperation in the areas of agricultural research, education and extension for identifying viable rural projects, which would be organized, coordinated and monitored by the SAARC Secretariat located at Kathmandu.